

HB 2654 Work Team Meeting

Work Team Meeting Summary – June 6, 2008, 8:00-9:30 am PDT

Document Purpose: This document summarizes the notes taken during the June 6, 2008 meeting / conference call.

Meeting Attendees: The following people participated in the Work Team meeting: Sue Allen, Cathy Clem, Dawn Grosz, Mary Jadwisiak, Tamara Johnson, Laura Van Tosh, Lenora Warden, Bill Waters, Andy Keller (facilitator), and Bill Wilson (note taker).

Meeting Process: The meeting began with discussion about the notes from the May 27th meeting. Lenora reported that she did not receive these notes. Bill asked for clarification on how the attachments that were sent fit into our discussions. Cathy noted that she completed her assignment and got input from a number of people. Andy led a discussion about work team roles. A review of progress toward assignments and planning of next steps rounded out the meeting.

Work Team Roles

- TriWest will take on the responsibility of facilitating development of meeting agendas, as well as taking notes and distributing them for feedback and revisions by the team.
 - The proposed agenda and notes from the previous meeting will be sent to team members within two business days after the meeting. Team members will respond with feedback by the day before the next meeting.
- A communication protocol was agreed upon, which involves a two-step email process:
 - Any documents or articles team members wish to share with others will be distributed through TriWest (Andy Keller and Bill Wilson).
 - Work Team members will select any documents or articles they feel should also be shared with the larger work group.
- Andy will continue to emcee these meetings and make his mother proud of his ability to listen and learn.

Updates:

- Cathy Clem's input;
 - Cathy reviewed notes from the last meeting she had with groups of consumers. Out of the four questions posed to these groups, most wanted to talk about ways to create their "dream mental health system".
 - Many concerns were voiced from the May 6th, 20th, and 26th, and the June 3rd groups. Some people wished to give feedback at that time, while others wanted to take time and seriously think about their input; they requested to meet to discuss this on June 10th, 17th, and 24th.
 - Concerns were expressed about what Olympia can do legislatively to address key issues.
 - Feedback included interest in Olympia creating a cross-state mental health court for youth.
 - Others expressed a need of providing parents with the ability to place youth with co-occurring disorders and high risks in secure facilities within the state, rather than sending children out of state. It was noted that many youth



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who are very ill and/or abusing substances are on the streets due to a lack of secure beds.

- Having services / resources available within 48 hours was identified as another key need.
- Others identified the need of increasing access to services for people with private insurance through parity and also increasing access to care for children who are not covered by Medicaid.
- Input from these groups indicated that a “dream mental health system” would include:
 - Acknowledgment of parent / caregiver burnout;
 - Creation of respite host homes in the mental health system much like what is available to foster care providers in the CA system;
 - The availability of respite / planned respite beds, not just crisis beds;
 - Parents having the ability (respite) to keep their at-risk children at home in the community, answering the question of who will watch at-risk children when parents are aging, ill or working.
- Cathy indicated that MHD has no RCW or WAC or other ordinance to teach or promote agencies / facilities why they must honor and partner with families. She provided input that CSTC staff are seen as de facto employees of the state who have treated parents and families badly without any consequences for their actions.
- Comments and responses from Work Team members were as follows:
 - Dawn asked for a write up of Cathy’s input. **Cathy will send her notes to TriWest, who will distribute to the rest of the work team.**
 - Lenora shared her experience with a family involved with the Veterans Administration who had no real support when the parent in military service was lost. She noted that NAMI in Pierce County was trying to respond to the family. Unfortunately, the children were taken by the state, leaving the family very traumatized.
 - Laura shared that on the national level, the Veterans Administration is looking at developing a program for consumer-run services and provided contact information for finding out ways to help advocate for this bill,
 - The contact person is: **Paulo DelVecchio**, phone number: **240-276-1946**
 - **Mary will obtain information from Mr. DelVecchio and send it to TriWest, who will distribute it to the rest of the team.**
 - Dawn asked Bill about getting on the CTP agenda to address this important legislation and to promote our group’s work. Bill agreed that this would be a good idea.
- Laura’s input:
 - Laura reported that she, Mary and Stephanie are doing a workshop at the WBH Conference. Brad Berry is making a presentation at this workshop, as well.
 - **TriWest will ask Brad, Mary and Laura for copies of their presentations and gathered input after the conference.**
 - Laura shared that there is going to be a change in leadership that will likely impact consumer groups. **Laura will send out the press release announcing this change** (a person is taking a position with Snohomish County).



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- Laura will be sending out an inquiry for research on consumer-run services and how they support and enhance mental health treatment. **Laura will summarize this input, develop an annotated bibliography and provide a link for this information.**
- Tamara shared that in August she is doing a Youth 'N Action training on youth partnerships with professionals. **After the event, Tamara will send training materials to TriWest, who will then distribute it to the rest of the team.**
- Mary Jadwisiak and Dawn Grosz's input:
 - Mary reviewed TriWest data from the last STI focus groups provided by Andy. She and Dawn compared that data to the notes from the list of desired supports developed at the meeting on April 29th.
 - They found that most of what was discussed during the April 29th meeting overlapped, but there were some unique issues from each of the sources.
 - **Mary will add the new STI data to the notes from the brainstorming list and send this information on to Andy.**
 - Dawn shared that the data was fairly recent and comprehensive, but it did not focus on youth. She stated that there is a need to augment the data they have gathered with data from youth.
 - Cathy shared that there was a study on transition age youth from Jean Crusage at the University of Washington. She noted that Stephanie may have some information on this study.
 - **Tamara indicated that she would share the study from Jean Crusage, along with identified issues, with TriWest. TriWest will circulate this information to the rest of the team.**
 - Tamara clarified for Mary that the study focuses on needs and challenges, and does not include a prioritization of youth-run supports.
 - **Mary will review this study and integrate its findings into her analysis of the information from the April 29th meeting and the STI data.**
 - **We will review this information and analysis at the next meeting, determine if services adequately meet the needs of youth, older adults or other groups, and then deal with gaps as they are identified.**
 - Plans were explored to finish the service list, including the following:
 - **TriWest will look at lists of supports and plans for three RSNs – North Sound, Clark County, and Chelan/Douglas – and have work completed by the third week of July.**
 - It was noted that RSNs have a standardized plan format, and that they submit plans to MHD stating how they will meet all the treatment modalities (called a “core competency” plan).
 - Bill shared that in meetings he has had with RSNs, they have been looking for guidance from consumer groups about the best way to proceed with consumer services.
 - Mary brought up the question about funding for these services.
 - Sue shared her frustration with federal mandates for statewide organization as a requirement to apply for funding. She reiterated that Washington needs a statewide organization.
 - Mary noted that while statewide organization may be needed, the feds may still change that law and take federal sources of funding off the table. She shared that the consumer movement is calling for 5 – 10% of federal block grant funding being



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designated for consumer-run services. She advocated for achieving equal funding and equal standing for consumer-run services within RSNs.

- Sue shared that she knows where the funding gaps in her county and can figure this out.
 - Dawn noted that we got a good start on the list from the April 29th meeting.
 - Bill shared his appreciation for this discussion, noting that we are laying the groundwork by proposing a strong model and vision for consumer-run services, can follow with evidence of supporting research on the effectiveness of these services and then come up with funding models. He suggested contacting Gene Johnson, director of Meta, who has looked at using Medicaid funding for these services. Bill also suggested looking at how Arizona funded and certified consumer-run services.
 - **TriWest will present funding and certification models from other states, including Arizona and upstate New York's full array of services.**
 - Dawn stated that for her constituents, she needs help identifying what is happening nationally that is creative and innovative on behalf of parents, caregivers and youth, as well as what is being put in place for family members.
- **Plans for next meeting:**
 - Review progress of work on services;
 - Think about what is needed for addressing funding gaps;
 - Discuss certification and technical services.
 - **Next meeting:** June 24th from 8:30 to 10:00 am Pacific Time
 - **Options for new date for 2654 Work Group meeting**
 - Work Team members indicated that Friday, August 8th in the Sea Tac area would be their first preference.
 - Andy will email Andy Toulon today and propose this date and place for the meeting.

